



Substitute Senate Bill No. 1036

Special Act No. 09-15

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS OF THE METROPOLITAN
DISTRICT COMMISSION TO SPONSOR CERTAIN PROJECTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 2 of number 511 of the special acts of 1929, as amended by number 327 of the special acts of 1931, section 1 of special act 79-102, section 1 of special act 81-56 and section 1 of special act 90-27, is amended to read as follows (*Effective from passage*):

Said district shall have within its territorial limits, except as hereinafter provided, the following powers and duties:

(a) The layout, construction maintenance, paving, repair, improvement, widening, extension, alteration and discontinuance of public highways, streets, walks, bridges, viaducts and ways, street lighting and sprinkling, the removal of snow and ice and the establishment of street, building and veranda lines, provided the authority of said district shall include only such streets and highways as enter more than one of the towns of said district or shall form a boundary or part of a boundary between two or more of such towns, and have, from time to time, been designated and described or laid out by vote of the district board, or streets or highways existing or proposed, which are voluntarily turned over to said district by any

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town or city within said district acting through the duly constituted authority of any such town or city having authority to lay out highways and have been accepted by said district; (b) the layout, building, creation, maintenance, improvement, alteration, repair and discontinuance of sewers and sanitary systems and plants for the disposal of sewage, the collection and disposal of garbage and refuse, the planning, design, construction and the control, operation and maintenance of resource recovery facilities utilizing processes aimed at reclaiming the material for energy values from solid waste or other solid waste or refuse disposal facilities designed to recover resources from materials that are useless, unwanted or discarded, including contracting with the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority with respect to the planning, design, construction, operation, ownership, maintenance or other function deemed necessary, convenient or desirable by the district with respect to the foregoing, the construction of drains for water or sewage and the control and maintenance of all the foregoing in the public highways and elsewhere throughout the district, together with such control of the streams and water courses of said district as is necessary or convenient for the foregoing as hereinafter more particularly stated; for the purposes of effectuating and carrying out any contract with the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority, as described in this section, the Metropolitan District shall be deemed to be a municipal authority within the meaning of chapter 361b of the general statutes, and shall have, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, full power to provide for and regulate the collection and disposal of all garbage, trash, waste and ashes either by contract or otherwise within the district provided that the district board has adopted a solid waste management plan in conformity with chapter 361a of the general statutes; (c) the creation, maintenance, extension, improvement, alteration, repair and operation of a water system including the impounding of water both within and without the territorial limits of said district, and the transmission and transportation of the same and the sale and delivery at retail or

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otherwise by means of a pipe system or otherwise; (d) the construction, maintenance, improvement, operation, alteration and repair of hydroelectric dams both within and without the territorial limits of said district, and the transmission, sale and distribution of electricity produced by hydroelectric dams to public service companies, municipal electric energy cooperatives, municipal utilities or municipalities; (e) the creation, establishment and maintenance of active recreational and educational facilities, including the ownership, construction, improvement, extension, operation and maintenance of a public golf course, managed on a for-profit basis, and any and all facilities customarily appurtenant thereto, including clubhouse, pro shop and restaurant; the lease of all or any part of any park or active recreational or educational facility upon any such terms or conditions and for such term of years as the district board may deem advisable where, in the determination of said board, such lease or leases are for commercial uses related to the public uses of the facility; the establishment, charging, collection and revision of fees, rents and other charges for the use of any such facility, and the provision by ordinance for the management and operation of any such facility, provided the powers granted pursuant to this subsection shall only be exercised on nonreservoir lands located in the towns of Glastonbury or Manchester; (f) for the period from the effective date of this section until ten years thereafter, the sponsorship of projects that may include the following: (1) A water exhibit at the Connecticut Science Center and the establishment of charges for such exhibit, in an amount not exceeding one million five hundred thousand dollars during such period, and (2) a water program and the establishment of charges for such program in an amount not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars during such period. Grants may be awarded under this subdivision to nonprofit organizations based on a competitive process. Not more than two weeks before making any such award, the district shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly

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having cognizance of matters relating to metropolitan districts that describes the process for making the award; (g) in connection with any of the foregoing functions, said district shall have, so far as may be necessary for the convenient carrying out of all or any of the foregoing functions, exclusive control of engineering, control of finance, the right to lay and collect taxes, the right to borrow money and to pledge the credit of the district, as security therefor, the right to issue evidences of indebtedness for and in behalf of said district and such other necessary or convenient auxiliary and collateral functions as are hereinafter indicated, including the right to take property by right of eminent domain, the right to assess benefits and damages in the layout of any public improvement included within the scope of the powers herein granted and generally the powers granted to municipal corporations by the general statutes so far as may relate to functions hereby transferred.

Vetoed July 7, 2009